The foregoing pages are essential to an objective consideration of the part played by Jews in European political life. They imply no criticism of the systems involved. There are circles in every country in which the fancied responsibility of the Jews for the triumph of Bolshevism in Russia is even now considered a high compliment; the name of Disraeli is nearly as unpopular in some groups as is that of Karl Marx in others. In the interest of veracity, however, it is necessary to remove the current misunderstanding. Individual Jews have played some part in politics at all times; "the Jews", never—save perhaps (and there were exceptions even then) in the heyday of the national revivals in the middle of the last century. And, though it is possible to discern a certain propensity on the part of Jews to that side in politics which was formerly termed "liberal", that tendency has never been exclusive. All parties and outlooks have found their response in the Jewish community: and in nothing does its essentially representative character shew up more clearly. Western civilisation has however been permanently enriched by their devoted, and sometimes heroic, leadership in the cause of self-government, of humanitarianism, and of social reform.

Appendix to Chapter XI

JEWS AND EUROPEAN LAW

ANY evaluation of the part of the Jews in the legal development of modern Europe must

necessarily take account of the Bible. For, while European law harks back in the main to Rome, the influence of Hebrew ethics on the mind of legislators and on the growth of customary law cannot be overlooked. Moreover, the mediaeval Canon Law, based to a considerable extent on the Old Testament,